



Bicycle Related Injuries

Bicyclist crashes are defined as crashes involving a person reported as a bicyclist or pedalcyclist.¹

How does this affect the United States?

- In 2015, a total of 817 bicyclists were killed in crashes with motor vehicles. This represents a 13 percent increase from 2014 and the highest number of bicyclist deaths since 1995.²
- In 2015, 54 percent of bicyclists killed were not wearing helmets, among those for whom helmet status was known.²
- Since 1975, deaths among bicyclists younger than 20 have declined 88 percent, while deaths among bicyclists 20 and older have more than tripled.²
- In 2014, more than 50,000 bicyclists were injured in motor vehicle traffic crashes.³

How does it affect Maryland?

- In 2015, there were 11 bicycle fatalities and 51 serious bicycle crash injuries in the state of Maryland.⁴
- An average of 7 bicyclists were killed and 68 are seriously injured each year.⁵
- Each year from 2009-2013, there was an average of 738 bicyclist-involved crashes resulting in 600 injured people.⁵

How do we address this problem?

- Helmet use has been estimated to reduce the odds of head injury by 50 percent, and the odds of head, face or neck injury by 33 percent.⁶
- Twenty-one states and the District of Columbia have helmet laws applying to young bicyclists; none of these laws applies to all riders.¹ Maryland's law states that all bicyclists 15 and younger must wear a helmet.²
- Maryland has passed laws regarding bicycle safety that apply to bicyclists and motorists, a helmet use law and laws regarding other safety equipment.⁵

Additional resources

- Maryland Strategic Highway Safety Plan 2016-2020. http://www.mva.maryland.gov/_resources/docs/MarylandSHSP_2016-2020-Final.pdf%20
- Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration Bicycle Safety Program: <http://www.sha.maryland.gov/index.aspx?Pagelid=357>
- Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Association <http://www.mva.maryland.gov/safety/mhso/program-bicycle-safety.htm>

Bicycle Related Injuries



References

1. Maryland Strategic Highway Safety Plan (2016-2020). (n.d.). Retrieved January 25, 2017, from http://www.mva.maryland.gov/resources/docs/MarylandSHSP_2016-2020-Final.pdf%20.
2. Pedestrians and bicyclists. (n.d.). Retrieved January 24, 2017, from <http://www.iihs.org/iihs/topics/t/pedestrians-and-bicyclists/fatalityfacts/bicycles/2015>
3. Traffic Safety Facts 2014 Data. (May 2016). Retrieved January 30, 2017, from <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/812282>.
4. Maryland Highway Safety Office 2016 Annual Report (2016).
5. BICYCLE SAFETY IN MARYLAND. (n.d.). Retrieved January 24, 2017, from http://www.mva.maryland.gov/safety/docs/FY15_Bike_ProgramAreaBriefCombinedFinal.pdf
6. Elvik, R. 2013. Corrigendum to: "Publication bias and time-trend bias in meta-analysis of bicycle helmet efficacy: A re-analysis of Attewell, Glase and McFadden, 2001". Accident Analysis and Prevention 60:245-53.

DHMH Non-Discrimination Statement

The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability in its health programs and activities.

English: Help is available in your language: 410-767-6016 (TTY: 1-800-735-2258). These services are available for free.

Español/Spanish: Hay ayuda disponible en su idioma: 410-767-6016 (TTY: 1-800-735-2258). Estos servicios están disponibles gratis.

中文/Chinese: 用您的语言为您提供帮助: 410-767-6016 (TTY: 1-800-735-2258)。这些服务都是免费的

Questions? Please call the Injury Prevention Help line : 1-866-703-3266 or email: dhmh.injuryprevention@maryland.gov.